

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 AMSTER 00713 141503Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15
SCS-06 CA-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /061 W
-----021533 141522Z /44

O 141145Z JUL 78

FM AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3544

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL ROTTERDAM

UNCLAS AMSTERDAM 713

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: CASC, EAIR, NL

SUBJECT: PAN AM LOW FARE FLIGHTS, AMSTERDAM TO BOSTON

REF: STATE 175904 AND PREVIOUS:

1. FOLLOWING DISCONTINUATION OF PAN AM REGISTRATION SYSTEM,
AS REPORTED IN OUR 701, PASSENGERS HAVE ORGANIZED A STANDBY
REGISTRATION SYSTEM WHICH SO FAR IS WORKING WELL.

2. ON JULY 12, THE STANDBY OPERATION WAS MOVED FROM THE DEPARTURE
LEVEL OF SCHIPHOL TERMINAL TO AN AREA ON THE BELOW-GROUND
LEVEL NEAR A PASSAGEWAY TO A RECENTLY COMPLETED BUT STILL
UNUSED AIRPORT RAILROAD STATION. THE AREA IS ADEQUATE ALTHOUGH
IT IS SHORT OF SEATING SPACE. IT IS SPACIOUS, CLEAN, WELL-LIGHTED
AND HAS NEARBY COMFORT AND FOOD FACILITIES. AT 2 P.M. EACH DAY
PAN AM OPENS A STANDBY DESK IN THIS AREA AND GIVES OUT STANDBY
CARDS FOR THE NEXT DAY'S FLIGHT BASED ON THE ORDER LIST CON-
TROLLED BY THE PASSENGERS. PASSENGERS WITH STANDBY CARDS THEN
OBTAIN BOARDING PASSES AT THE PAN AM CHECK-IN COUNTER BETWEEN
9 A.M. AND 12:30 NOON ON FLIGHT DAY. THE AIRPORT AUTHORITIES
ARE ALLOWING PASSENGERS TO OVERNIGHT IN THE AREA. CONGEN VIEWED
THE AREA AT 9 P.M. ON JULY 13. IT WAS SUPERVISED. THERE WERE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 AMSTER 00713 141503Z

SOME 40 PERSONS, MOST OF THEM YOUNG AND MANY OF THEM AMERICANS
AND MOST WERE ALREADY SETTLED IN SLEEPING BAGS.

3. A CONTINUOUS NUMBER REGISTRATION SYSTEM WAS STARTED ON JULY
12 UNDER CONTROL OF PASSENGER VOLUNTEERS. ASSUMING THE
ABSENCE OF A BACKLOG, SYSTEM INVOLVES A THREE DAY PROCEDURE.
THE PASSENGER REGISTERS ONE DAY, OBTAINS A STANDBY CARD

ON THE NEXT DAY, AND GETS BOARDING PASS AND FLIES ON THIRD DAY. PASSENGERS MAY REGISTER AT ANY TIME, DAY OR NIGHT, ON A FIRST COME BASIS. NO PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO ANYONE, INCLUDING THOSE ON DISCONTINUED PAN AM WAITING LISTS. THOSE WHOSE REGISTRATION NUMBERS ARE LIKELY TO QUALIFY THEM FOR STANDBY CARDS THE NEXT DAY ARE INSTRUCTED TO BE PRESENT IN THE AREA FROM 6 A.M., WITH 8 A.M. BEING THE DEADLINE. ANYONE IN THAT NUMBER GROUP WHO IS NOT PRESENT BY 8 A.M. LOSES HIS TURN AND MUST REGISTER AGAIN. THE OTHERS WAIT IN LINE UNTIL 2 P.M. TO RECEIVE FROM PAN AM STANDBY CARDS FOR THE NEXT DAY'S FLIGHT.

4. ON JULY 13, CONGEN OBSERVED THE HANDING OUT OF STANDBY CARDS FOR THE JULY 14 FLIGHT. IT WAS ORDERLY AND THERE WERE FEW COMPLAINTS. ALTHOUGH PLANE CARRIES ONLY 184 PASSENGERS, PAN AM HAD TO CALL REGISTRATION NUMBERS FROM 1 THROUGH 207 BECAUSE OF NO-SHOWS. NEXT DAY'S STANDBY CALL FOR JULY 15 FLIGHT WILL START WITH NUMBER 208. CONGEN ALSO OBSERVED REGISTRATION PROCEDURE AT 4 P.M. AND 9 P.M. ON JULY 13. THERE WAS NO CROWD AND NO APPARENT IRREGULARITIES. AS OF 9 P.M. LIST RAN TO 380 ONLY.

5. THE SYSTEM IS WORKING WELL SO FAR. ONE DRAWBACK IS THAT REGISTRATION PROCEDURE IS TOTALLY CONTROLLED BY THE PASSENGERS. IT IS THUS DEPENDENT ON THE APPEARANCE EACH DAY OF A WILLING CAPABLE AND FAIR-MINDED VOLUNTEER. THOSE WHO HANDLED LISTS ON JULY 12 AND 13 WERE SUCH PERSONS, AS IS THE VOLUNTEER FOR THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 AMSTER 00713 141503Z

FOLLOWING DAY'S REGISTER. WE HOPE REGISTRATION LIST DOES NOT COME UNDER CONTROL OF PRESSURE GROUPS WITH VERY SPECIFIC INTERESTS, AS WE HAVE SEEN IN THIS OPERATION.

6. A PROBLEM MAY ALSO ARISE AROUND THE PERSONS REGISTERED UNDER THE FORMER SYSTEM. WHEN PAN AM DISCONTINUED ITS WAITING LISTS, IT WAS REGISTERING PASSENGERS FOR THE JULY 23 FLIGHT. SOME OF THESE PERSONS HAVE PROBABLY GONE OFF TO CONTINUE THEIR HOLIDAY AND WILL RETURN ON THEIR REGISTRATION DATE EXPECTING TO FLY ON THAT DAY. OTHERS WILL COME TO THE AIRPORT DAILY AND SHOULD BE ACCOMMODATED BY NEW SYSTEM WITHOUT CAUSING THEM MUCH ADDITIONAL DELAY. IF HOWEVER WORD OF THE SYSTEM CHANGE GETS TO MOST PAN AM REGISTRANTS SIMULTANEOUSLY AND THEY ALL RUSH TO AIRPORT TO COMPETE UNDER NEW SYSTEM, WE WILL AGAIN HAVE LARGE AND UNHAPPY CROWDS.

7. AS OF COB ON JULY 13 POST HAD GIVEN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO 17 PERSONS BECAUSE OF THE LOW FARE FLIGHT BACKLOG. NINE RECEIVED SMALL ADVANCES FROM OUR UNOFFICIAL WELFARE FUND AND THE BALANCE WERE GIVEN OFFICIAL REPATRIATION AND/OR SUBSISTENCE LOANS.
LAGASSE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRLINES, AIR FARES, AIR ROUTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978AMSTER00713
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780289-0390
Format: TEL
From: AMSTERDAM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780761/aaaabzfo.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f51c9e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 175904
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2012598
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAN AM LOW FARE FLIGHTS, AMSTERDAM TO BOSTON
TAGS: CASC, EAIR, NL, US, PANAM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f51c9e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014